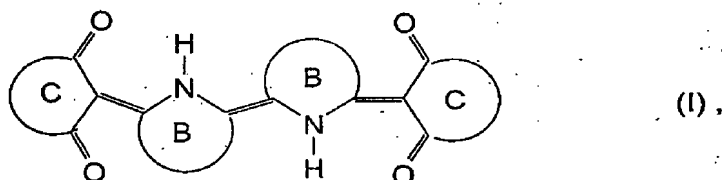


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Amendments to the Claims

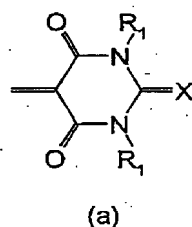
1) (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula (I)



(I),

wherein C is of the formula (a) ~~an alicyclic or heterocyclic group having C_{2v}~~

~~symmetry~~



(a)

wherein R₁ independently of one another are hydrogen, C₁-C₂₅ alkyl, C₅-C₁₂ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₂₄ aryl, C₁-C₂₅ alkyl-(C₆-C₁₀)-aryl, a heteroaromatic radical having 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, -(CH₂)_n-COR₃ and -(CH₂)_m-OR₄.

In which R₃ is hydroxyl, unsubstituted or mono- or poly-hydroxyl- or amino-substituted C₁-C₂₅ alkoxy, C₁-C₂₅ alkylamino, di-(C₁-C₂₅ alkyl)amino, C₁-C₂₅ alkyl-C₆-C₂₄ arylamino, (C₆-C₂₄ aryl)amino, di-(C₆-C₂₄ aryl)amino or C₂-C₂₄ alkenyloxy.

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and R₄ is hydrogen or -CO-(C₁-C₂₅ alkyl), and n and m independently of one another are an integer from 0 to 6, and wherein in R₁, R₃ and R₄ a C-C unit can optionally be replaced by an ether unit C-O-C,
and B is ~~ortho-C₆-C₄₈-arylene~~ ortho-phenylene.

2) (Cancelled)

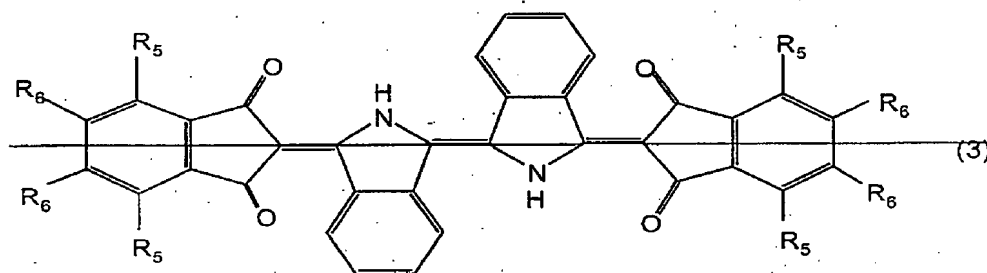
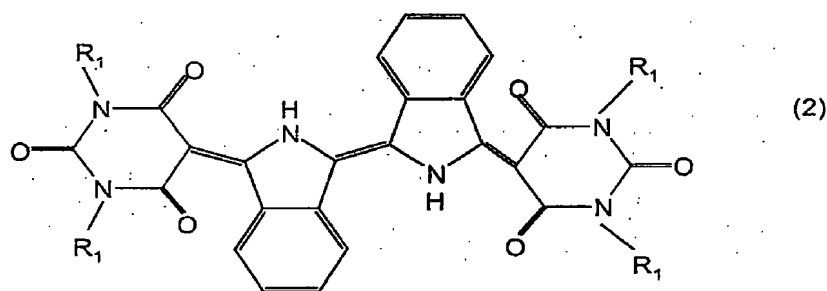
3) (Cancelled)

4) (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in one claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ ~~are~~ is identical or different and ~~are~~ is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, benzyl, C₅-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₁₀ aryl, pyridyl, pyrrol, thienyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, pyrimidyl, hydroxycarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈ alkoxycarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, aminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈ alkylaminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, C₆-C₁₀ arylaminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, di(C₁-C₁₈ alkyl)-aminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl-C₆-C₁₀-arylaminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl or di(C₆-C₁₀-aryl)-aminocarbonyl-C₀-C₁₈ alkyl.

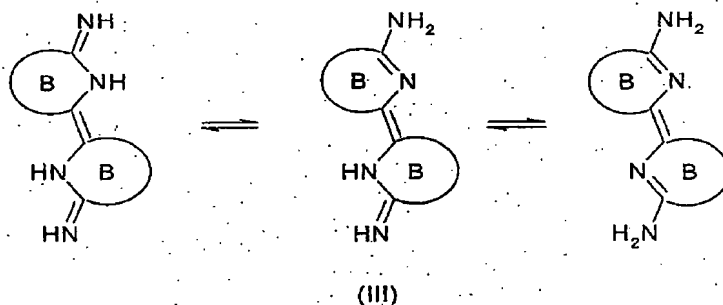
5) (Cancelled)

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6) (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 31, wherein the compound of formula (I) is of the formula (2) or (3)

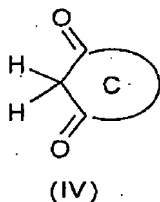


7) (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, comprising the step of condensing a compound of the formula (III)



with at least 2 mole equivalents of a cyclic compound of the formula (IV)

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8) (Cancelled)

9) (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a oil-based paint water-based paint, varnish, camouflage paint, spin colored article, plastic, printing ink, colored paper, colored seed, powder coating material, ink jet ink, microemulsion ink or hot melt process ink.

10) (Previously Presented) A colorant for electrophotographic toners, electrophotographic developers or electronic inks comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1.

11) (Cancelled)

12) (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein n and m independently of one another are 1 to 4.

13) (Cancelled)

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14) (Previously Presented) An optical layer for optical data storage comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1.

15) (Previously Presented) A color filter comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1.